

Got a Spare Half a Million? City's That Short

The city council could do very well with an extra half a million dollars, if you please.

In fact, it could use more—about \$720,000 is closer—if it is going to make the estimated expenditures and estimated revenues come close to matching up in that annual headache, the city budget.

Figures presented to the council Monday evening in a special session by City Manager George Stevens painted the picture for the legislators—in red.

Requests compiled by the city manager from the various departments of the city totaled \$5,154,620 after administrative paring.

Estimated income for the city from all sources during the 1959-60 fiscal year, which begins July 1, was

pegged at \$4,338,373.

The difference is \$716,247 anyway you figure it. It's a difference the city doesn't have.

The whole situation is going to call for a "super-austerity budget," Mayor Albert Isen commented, indicating that some major cuts were in order.

First out of the bag was a tentative decision to lop off some of the requested personnel additions to city departments, which would effect a savings of about \$200,000.

In a second session on the budget Tuesday evening, the council heard City Manager Stevens report that the city would have about \$248,000 for streets and highways in the new budget and that about \$95,000 of

that is already committed. Funds totaling \$54,000 have been allocated for the extension of Calle Mayor north to join Anza, he said. Work can probably be started this summer if the Walteria Lake storm drain project can be started.

The council also heard Assistant City Manager Chapman Bone explain the need for realignment of city pay scales to eliminate "a distortion at the top."

He indicated that surveys made by the city revealed that Torrance is about 2 per cent below average pay for police sergeants, 4 per cent low for lieutenants, 9 per cent low for captains, and that the same trend is present in most departments.

Adjustment of these pay ranges would cost the city

\$48,000 in the new budget, he estimated.

On top of that, he indicated that the survey showed that most cities planned pay hikes in their new budgets with 5 per cent being the most commonly quoted figure.

Bone plans to submit a new schedule to the council next week showing a 5 per cent spread between pay steps, and other showing a 2½ per cent spread.

While not discussed at the meeting, some councilmen speak privately of putting the recreation department budget on a separate tax levy outside of the general fund tax rate as a means of solving the city's tax problem. The general fund tax rate cannot exceed \$1 under terms of the city charter.

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DRIVER PULLS TOT FROM DEATH

A Penny for your Thoughts

"If the money was used for adequate retirement pensions would you be in favor of legal sweepstake races in the United States?" This question was asked five people in Torrance this week. Their answers and pictures are below.

Emma Hall, 1417½ Marcelina, pensioner:

"Yes, I would favor having legal sweepstakes for sale in this country if the money was used to increase our old age allotment. I think it would be a wonderful thing for all 65-year-olds."



George Blake, Los Angeles truck driver:

"Sure, I'm for it. Give the old-timers enough money live on and they would be a lot happier. People are going to buy sweepstakes tickets anyway — so why not make it legal?"

Emma Harvsty, 1501 Date, pensioner:

"I would be in favor of legal sweepstake ticket sales here if the government controlled the sale of tickets and the running of the races so it would be kept honest."



J. J. Hendrick, Rolling Hills, aircraft executive:

"No, I would be against legal gambling of any type. We have plenty gambling at race tracks and in Gardena and Las Vegas. It is against our civic and church laws and making it legal would only increase crime, is my opinion."

Dick Burge, Brighton Hotel, pensioner:

"I would vote for it. I think it would keep rackets out and would do a lot of good for the oldsters. Besides this good it would put a lot more money in circulation."



Issues Blast

Job Stymied, Bishop Says

Charges that the city manager and at least one of the councilmen were "hamstringing Torrance for purely personal reasons," were voiced yesterday by Ronald W. Bishop, former city engineer who retired recently effective June 1.

In a news release distributed to area newspapers, Bishop singled out City Manager George Stevens and Councilman Willys Blount, charging that they sided with subdivisions when Bishop tried to "maintain satisfactory subdivisions standards."

The city's engineering department was hopelessly and inadequately understaffed during the nearly seven years he served as city engineer, Bishop said.

"In 1957," he said, "Torrance had but two registered graduate engineers while such comparable cities as Glendale and Burbank had eight and nine registered engineers respectively." He said Torrance was now seeking seven graduate engineers for that department.

"FROM THE TIME that I demanded that the street paving, curbs, gutters, and cross-gutters in Torrance subdivisions be comparable to those in Inglewood and Redondo Beach, Stevens and Blount actively frustrated me in the performance of my duties," Bishop charged.

He accused the city manager of bypassing him and talking to subordinates on important departmental matters, and of failing to advise him of facts which were important to him in his work.

"I FELT that it was beneath my dignity to continue my fight for better engineering under conditions such as these," Bishop's statement said. "The political implications of the entire situation became crystal clear to me when a majority of the city council praised my work and suggested that I continue my employment with the city of Torrance as acting city engineer and senior design engineer with no reduction in salary," he said.

"I DID SO until I recently learned that the long-continuing harassment of Stevens and Blount soon was to resume. Knowing full well how my abilities would be endangered by such conduct, I resigned finally and emphatically from my employment with the city."

AT THE North High School commencement diplomas will be handed over to the graduates by Clinton B. Cooke following presentation of the class by Dale M. Harter, principal, to Dr. J. H. Hull.

Preceding the awarding of diplomas, Jo Ann Hoffmeier and Robert E. Halliwell II will deliver an address on "Mentors to Remember."

BACCALAUREATE exercises at both high schools will take place Sunday, Rev. Hugh R. Percy, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, will address the Torrance High School graduates at a 3 p.m. service at the school. Other pastors participating in the program include Rev. Charles Little of the Church of the Nazarene, Rev. Peter Lee of the Torrance First Methodist Church, and Rev. Wendel

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HAPPY REUNION . . . Kim Noaks, still shaken by all the excitement, is hugged by her mother, Mrs. Jack Noaks, of 1551 Torrance Blvd., following a daring rescue of the 2-year-old from the path of an oncoming train here yesterday. Bakery Driver C. R. Berry was credited with the rescue.

Girl Saved From Train

By BOB WILTON
Herald Staff Writer

A Torrance toddler was saved from probable death under the wheels of a freight train yesterday when a bakery truck driver played the role of hero and snatched the youngsters from the tracks where she had fallen.

Kim Noaks, two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Noaks, 1551 Torrance Blvd., was rescued from the path of an oncoming Southern Pacific diesel freight engine by C. R. Berry, route driver for the Helms Bakery, who braved automobile traffic to dash to the right-of-way and scoop up the fallen child.

Mrs. Noaks was washing clothes in a garage and Kim was playing on the floor nearby. Suddenly at 11:30 a.m. she missed her daughter and ran out to the front of her home. There she saw Kim toddling toward the railroad tracks.

She screamed, "Kim!"

The tiny baby turned to return to her mother, but in doing so tripped and fell between the rails.

IT WAS THEN that Berry, serving a customer on the south side of Torrance Blvd., saw the near tragedy, dropped a loaf of bread he was selling, and ran to the baby's side. He scooped her up and ran on to the far side of the tracks where he put the frightened child in her sobbing mother's arms.

Weakened from the strain (Continued on Page 46)

SCHOOL OFFICE LOOTED

Entering by a rear door, thieves made off with nearly \$4000 worth of office machines from the offices of the Board of Education, 3335 Plaza Del Amo, Monday night, according to Torrance police.

In a report made Tuesday, officials of the Torrance Unified School District stated the burglars removed three electric typewriters, five adding machines, and a calculating machine from the district administration building.

After forcing open a louver beside the rear entrance, the thieves reportedly removed the machines to a car or truck which had been backed up to the front door.

Dominguez Road Work Is Planned

Plans for improvement of Main St. from approximately 400 feet to 700 feet north of 214th St. in the Dominguez area, were announced yesterday by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Construction work, expected to begin this week, will consist of extending the pavement on the west side of Main Street to join curb and gutter recently constructed by adjoining property owners.

Recent traffic counts show that nearly 12,000 vehicles use this portion of Main St. daily.

Harbor Hospital Plans Move Ahead Six Months

Construction plans for the new 600-bed hospital and outpatient clinic at Harbor General Hospital have been moved up six months it was revealed here yesterday by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Chace said bids for the \$14 million hospital and clinic will be called for in January of 1960 instead of June of that year as the result of a speed-up of production schedules by the architects and the county hospital officials.

Plans for the modern facilities which will replace the outmoded Army barracks will be submitted to the state and county for approval on Sept. 1.

ISSUANCE of the first block of hospital bonds to finance the construction was authorized Tuesday by the supervisors. The bonds will be used to finance construction of the \$2½ million laundry and steam and refrigeration plant to serve the new facility.

Construction of the outpatient clinic is scheduled to be financed from general county funds. The county has approved formal application to the State Bureau of Hospitals for an allocation of Hill-Burton federal funds to assist with the construction of the clinic. By meeting certain state and federal standards,

the unit would be eligible for grants up to two-thirds of the cost of the building, the amount depending on the federal funds available.

THE GENERAL hospital will contain approximately 400,000 square feet of floor space, and the two-story wing will contain an additional 56,000 square feet of space. The clinic will accommodate 9000 patient visits per month, Chace said.

Supervisor Chace sponsored the \$15,000,000 hospital bond issue at the general election four years ago, and also sponsored the bond campaign which won the support of a majority of the voters even as far distant as San Fernando Valley to replace the former Army Barracks which now serve as a medical center for the Torrance-Harbor Area.

THE NEW hospital will be located on 25 acres of property near the intersection of Carson St. and Vermont Ave. and will consist of eight stories with an adjoining two-story wing and out-patient clinic of reinforced concrete construction.

The building will be elevated on columns at the first floor to form a colonnade which will enable patients and visitors to enter both the public and admitting lobbies directly from their automobiles.

Architects who designed the building are Francis Heusel of Long Beach, Adrian Wilson, Welfon Beckett, and Paul Williams, all of Los Angeles.

School Head Gets Raise A Year Late

Superintendent J. H. Hull, Torrance, only school employee who did not get a pay raise last year, got one Tuesday night — a year late.

The School Board voted to increase the salary to \$20,500. In figuring the increase, the board used the same percentage of increase as that given other employees since his last raise two years ago. A legal technicality — requiring that the superintendent's salary be raised by July 1 — barred him from a raise last year.

The board previously indicated that it hopes to be able to raise salaries of all district employees this year, but must wait until final budget and assessed valuation figures are compiled later this summer.

Riviera Students Meet Supervisors

Supervisor Burton W. Chace yesterday welcomed 75 students from the Riviera School in Torrance to the Board of Supervisors' meeting in the Hall of Records.

The eighth grade Civic students, who were brought to the Civic Center by their teacher, Mr. Duncan, were introduced to other Board members by Supervisor Chace who praised the group for their interest in County government.

New Subscription Service Offered

Readers who prefer guaranteed home delivery of their Torrance HERALD on Thursday only may now subscribe on a split-subscription plan for only 25 cents a month.

The new plan has been made available in response to many requests received from HERALD readers throughout the newspaper's large circulation area.

Residents who do not receive their Thursday HERALD by 11 a.m. will be assured of delivery if they call the HERALD circulation office by 3 p.m. Thursday.

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